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" (ii) The number of members of municipal councils belonging to the Harijan community is 113. There is no member belonging to Scheduled Tribes on any municipal council.

" (iii) The total number of presidents of panchayats who belong to the Harijan community is 224 and of those who belong to the Scheduled Tribes is 43. No member of the Harijan community or the Scheduled Tribes is serving as Chairman of any municipal council."

*Number of lorries owned by Producers'-*cum*-Consumers' Co-operative Societies in Malabar.*

* 1240 *Q.*—Sri K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state how many lorries owned by the Producers'-*cum*-Consumers' Co-operative Societies in Malabar are having Public Carrier Permits and how many are not?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" Eight lorries owned by Producers'-*cum*-Consumers' Co-operative Societies in Malabar district have public carrier permits and fifty-four have private carrier permits."

Sri K. P. GOPALAN :—" As the Producers'-*cum*-Consumers' Co-operative Societies in Malabar are running at a loss, may I know whether the Government will be pleased to see that public carrier permits are given to these societies if they apply to the Government? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" The applications will be recommended by the Collector provided the concerned societies have made necessary provisions in their by-laws."

Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" When this question came up on a previous occasion, the Hon. Minster in charge said that applications of Producers'-*cum*-Consumers' Co-operative Societies for conversion of private carrier permits into public carrier permits were considered sympathetically and rejected. May I know whether there is any change of attitude in the present difficult circumstances of the Producers'-*cum*-Consumers' Co-operative Societies? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" I have not been able to understand the implications of the supplementary question."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member will please repeat his question."

Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" When this question of converting private carriers owned by Producers'-*cum*-Consumers' Societies into public ones was raised previously, the Hon. Minister stated that the applications of these societies were sympathetically considered and then rejected. Their present condition have worsened still. Will the Hon. Minister, therefore, give a more sympathetic consideration to the applications of these societies? " 11-40 a.m.

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" The applications are considered with all the sympathy they deserve."

Dr. K. B. MENON :—" Are the Government aware that a kind of a small racket is carried on by some of the societies that hold public or private carrier permits for buying and selling too often the lorries that they have and if the Government have no information, will the Government keep an eye on it and enquire? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" The hon Gentleman may kindly communicate to me the information he has in his possession."

Recommendations made to the Election Commission regarding Assembly and Parliamentary Constituencies of the City.

* 1241 *Q.*—Sri A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government made any fresh recommendations or proposals to the Election Commission in the month of March 1954, regarding Assembly and Parliamentary Constituencies of the City of Madras; and

(*b*) if so, the number of reserved seats proposed to be allotted to the Scheduled Castes?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

Sri A. RATNAM :—" தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு சென்னையில் ஸ்தானங்களை எந்த அடிப்படையில் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது ? சென்னையில் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுடைய ஜனத்தொகை என்ன ? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Formerly, the reservation was made on the estimated population basis. Now we are having the actual population based on the 1951 Census. On that basis, the Delimitation Commission has recommended the reservation for Scheduled Castes."

Assignment of Ruba Narayana Nallur forest lands to the landless Harijans.

* 1242 *Q.*—Sri M. KATTIMUTHU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the action taken on several petitions sent to Government from January 1953 onwards regarding the assignment of the Ruba Narayana Nallur forest lands to the landless Harijans of Ruba Narayana Nallur?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" One mahazar petition, dated 3rd March 1954, was received by the District Forest Officer, Chingleput from the Harijans of Ruba Narayana Nallur. This was examined by him and was rejected, as there was possibility of developing the areas into a good forest and as the policy of the Government is not to disreserve forest lands."

Sri M. KATTIMUTHU :—" ஸார், அந்தக் காட்டை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் நேர்முகமாகப் போய்ப் பார்த்தால் அது காட்டிற்கு லாயக்குள்ளதா அல்லது விவசாயத்திற்கு லாயக்குள்ளதா என்பது நன்ருகத் தெரியும்.